



### **New Hampshire's High School Redesign in Action Presentations**

### STUDENT LEADERSHIP IN CREATING A DYNAMIC HIGH SCHOOL

School: Hillsboro-Deering High School, Hillsboro, NH

**Presenters:** Kym Bergstresser (student leader), Tristan Brooks (student leader), Clarice Clark (faculty advisor), Jennifer Crawford (associate principal), Joshua Gould (student leader), Emma Moore (student leader), Jim O'Rourke (principal), Katie Ort (student leader), Shannon Thomas (student leader), Jeramy Thompson (faculty advisor), Brianna Welch (student leader)

**Presentation Information:** Friday, March 21 | 9:15 am + 10:45 am **Website:** http://hdhs.hdsd.org/pages/Hillsboro-Deering\_High\_School

Contact: Jim O'Rourke | jorourke@hdsd.k12.nh.us

**Description:** During the transitional years of high school, every student must learn to become a productive member of our diverse and magnificent society. For this reason, student leadership and voice are critical, and character needs to be developed alongside academic abilities. At Hillsboro-Deering High School, the faculty believes all students must understand how to act on behalf of their peers while accomplishing superordinate objectives. And the school's student-leadership strategies can already claim significant progress and successes, including the student-led development of school policies, events, and goals. The ongoing goal of the school's student-leadership program is to promote the acquisition of new liberties for students while continually fostering a positive relationship between out senior and junior administration.

# UNCOVERING, DISCOVERING, AND RECOVERING THE GIFTS AND TALENTS OF EVERY LEARNER

School: Making Community Connections Charter School, Manchester, NH

**Presenters:** Rowan Brantley (student), Elizabeth Cardine (school coach), Kim Carter (executive director), Shaun Davis (student), Angela Hinkle (teacher), Brendan Hinkle (student), Indira Palmer (student)

**Presentation Information:** Friday, March 21 | 10:45 am + 1:15 pm

Website: www.mc2school.org

Contact: Kim Carter | kim.carter@mc2school.org

**Description:** Effective student-centered learning taps into students' strengths, challenges, interests, and abilities as a way to engage their intellectual curiosity and promote greater ownership over the learning process. The Making Community Connections (MC2) Charter School uses learning profiles to uncover, discover, and recover all the gifts and talents each learner possesses. MC2 is a middle/high school with a unique competency-based instructional model that integrates cognitive science and educational research, while also giving learners

multiple, self-paced pathways to mastery. Join MC2 staff and students for an interactive exploration of the school's structures, tools, and stories.

## SUPPORTING A SCHOOL-WIDE COMPETENCY-BASED GRADING AND REPORTING SYSTEM

School: Sanborn Regional High School, Kingston, NH

Presenters: Mark Giuliucci (Freshman Learning Community PLC team leader), Brian M. Stack

(principal), Andrew Wood (Career & Technical Education PLC team leader)

Presentation Information: Thursday, March 20 | 2:15 pm + Friday, March 21 | 9:15 am

Website: <a href="https://www.sau17.org/schools/high-school">www.sau17.org/schools/high-school</a>
Contact: Brian M. Stack | bstack@sau17.org

**Description:** Over the past three years, Sanborn Regional High School has developed a school-wide competency-based grading and reporting model that has received local, state, and national attention. Based on some of the latest assessment research by Ken O'Connor, Rick Wormeli, Robert Marzano, Rick Stiggins, and Rose Colby, the model is aligned with the Common Core State Standards and the competency-based model promoted by the New England Secondary School Consortium. Participants in this multimedia session will learn about how we structured our system, how we implemented it in a school of 750 students, and how it reinforces our school's vision of learning for all. Participants will also have an opportunity to question the educators who designed and implemented the model.

### INTRODUCING ASPIRE: COMPETENCY-BASED LEARNING UNBOUND

School: Virtual Learning Academy Charter School, Exeter, NH

Presenters: Anthony Baldasaro (chief human resource officer), Steve Kossakoski (chief

executive officer), Gary Tirone (special projects coordinator)

**Presentation Information:** Thursday, March 20 | 2:15 pm + 3:45 pm

Website: http://vlacs.org

Contact: Steve Kossakoski | skossakoski@vlacs.org

**Description:** In July, the Virtual Learning Academy Charter School was awarded a Next Generation Learning Challenge grant to implement a breakthrough college-readiness model. Called VLACS Aspire, the model provides students and families with the opportunity to radically personalize learning by creating individualized "learning playlists" that reflect their particular interests and goals. Students earn competencies through a variety of learning pathways, including independent studies, projects, internships, work experiences, online courses, face-to-face courses, hobbies, service learning, or a combination of activities. Students who participate in a VLACS Aspire learning experience will find that there is no prescribed way or timeline for earning a competency; there is just the way that works best for the student. Participants in this session will leave with a better understanding of competency-based education and the VLACS Aspire program.